SHAKER COLLECTION

Item 350 d1

1840
B230

Mother's Staff of Love

Mother, Ann's, Staff
of Love, and Remembrance,
to all her first born,

Children, upon Earth,

Written by Inspiration,

October 31st 1840.

The following is a communication made by Mother Ann, the fore part of which is addressed to the middle aged and rising generation; the latter part to all her first born children delivered by Inspiration, in the presence of both orders of the Church when assembled at the meeting house on Sabbath afternoon the 18th of October, and written by Inspiration on the 31st of the same month. A.D. 1840.

Beloved Elders, Mother Ann and all the rest of our heavenly Parents are here. And Mother says, if the beloved Elders fal union, she has a few words to speak to all the middle aged and young. The Elders

readily assented, and the speaker proceeded..

O that my children (~~every where~~) could know and sense, in truth, the impartance of well improving the day in which they live! the impartance of walking in the true fear of God, and possessing a heart filled with gratitude and thankfulness for every gift and blessing that God, in his great condescension and loving kindness, has been pleased, thro' us, to bestow upon you whom he hath called, to be bright shining examples of purity and holiness to the nations of the earth.

Yea, (says Mother) truly great, very great is the responsibility

that rests upon each, and every one of you. — I do entreat you, my beloved children, (says Mother) to be prudent and saving of the many yea the very many precious gifts of God which we have convey'd to you, that a further and deeper planting of the gospel of Christ might be effected in your souls. Yea I say unto all the middle aged and rising generation, (says Mother) that for the use ye have made, and may hereafter make, even of the very least of these holy and sacred things, which we have given you, God will require a strict account at your hand. Therefore I say unto all, be ye saving and prudent; for the very least of these crumbs will yet become the most precious morsels in your mouths.

When days and years of heavy and deep tribulation roll on from every hand and side, and clouds of thick darkness hang over you, then would your hearts gladly bow in tears of gratitude and thankfulness to God, and to your heavenly Parents, if you could but obtain one of the least of these crumbs, as they are now given in this day where in you all do now live. A day of which the spiritual avenues of communication, between those in time & ~~t~~, and those in eternity have been opend thro the loving kindness of God, your Heavenly Father according to his own will and wisdom.

A day in which thee food of Angels is pourd down from the windows of Heaven, in showers of great abundance

upon you. And all you who are wise, (as [redacted] Mother,) will lay up stores of these precious gifts of God, now in day of plenty; that ye may have where withal to clothe, and feed yourselves, yea, and to give to others, (as those before you have given to you,) thro the days and years of mourning and deep tribulation, which my first born children have been passing. Yea (says Mother,) they have freely nourished and fed you that you might not faint and fall by the way. And this they have done from that store and substance of good they received from our hands when we were upon earth (says Mother,) which day was unto them

as this day is unto you my beloved young brethren, and sisters. A day in which you are call'd to plant your feet upon that immovable foundation which God hath laid, and which never will be overthrown. that ye may stand unshaken though storms of persecution, and days of great darkness and deep tribulation. As those before you have stood; so must ye in like manner stand, or ye can in no wise fulfill the order of your calling, (says Mother.) And these days must come upon you that your faith may be tryed. And those that abide shall be washed clean and pure in the furnace of tribulation.

For God will surely visit the earth, and the inhabitants thereof with a heavy hand of judgement, for the awful abominations which they have committed thereon. And the power and spirit of the serpent, will be aroused and enraged in malice to persecute the true worshipers of God. But all such of you as have wisely, and faithfully improved the time & day which God hath given you, to clothe your souls with the garments of righteousness, shal safely dwell beneath his Almighty hand of protection says Mother Ann.

Now beloved Elders with your union, (says Mother) I have a few words of truth peace and consolation, to impart to all my first born children that are yet remaining with you; and it is my desire that they would all draw near, that they may understand my words. [The aged Brethren & sisters then came forward and stood in front of the meeting, and Mother proceeded]

Hearken unto my voice, O my dearly beloved children! (says your blessed Mother Ann.) At my face, while I was upon earth, did you receive, (together with the rest of your cross-bearing companions who are now gathered home, to rest from their

labours on earth) a pure and stedfast planting in the gospel of Christs second coming; which you believed, (as I taught you says Mother) was without sin unto salvation; leaving no room for the indulgence of any part of a fallen corrupt nature of the flesh. I say (says Mother) you embraced it with full purpose of heart, that this was the requirement of God. And this you was enabled to do, without doubting; because you believed in what you were taught by those whom God had appointed, and anointed, with power to open the door of full salvation to fallen man. And often did I, with the rest of your beloved Elders

(my Mother) exhort and encourage
you to persevere on, and abide
faithful to the end of your days;
for the time would surely come,
that this gospel would greatly in-
crease among the children of men,
and by your faithful and cross
bearing perseverance to continue
your travel in the road which
you had begun; that the light
there of would be greatly extended,
and that the time would come
when the branches would flourish
and bend with precious fruit,
that all might know the root
thereof was holy.

But you that embraced
the gospel when I first proclaim'd

it in this land, (~~[illegible]~~ Mother)
and are yet remaining upon earth,
have passed thro many dark, and
adverse scenes; yea, and in
days and years of tribulation have you
ded, almost despairing of ever
seeing this my gospel flourish, and
bring forth fruit to God's acceptance
in those that were called after
we had left the earth. And in
the days of this darkness, in which
the power of evil was busily at work,
blending and seeking to blend his
benighted influence with my pure
and holy gospel; bringing in the form
and fashions of the children of this
world and with al partaking of their
spirits, opening the door of ease, and
indulgence, and labouring more to

appear popular in the eyes of the world, than to propose my gospel in its purity did your spirits, my beloved first born, mourn and weep with me and I with you says Mother

For in a great part a portion of those that came after you, did you, with me, behold the true principles of this gospel held only as matters of secondary importance to them; And in these days did your souls, my dearly beloved, breathe forth in prayer to me, that I would gather you home from the scenes of time to dwell with me in Eternity where your spirits would no longer be grieved with those paping and soul darkining scenes upon earth,

which, at times, appeared to be fast gaining influence among those that posesped to be my children.

But remember, my dearly beloved, I have mourned and wept with you, yea and I have united your prayers with mine, in humble supplication to God, our heavenly Father, that he would open some door whereby Zion should be purged from her sins, and that darkness which had gathered upon her. And you that are now remaining upon the earth, have beheld with your eyes, the door which God, through hath opened; and you have supported it with the strenght of your whole heart and soul, says Mother. And you have set a righteous

Godly example, in partaking of these my precious gifts, tho never so small, with hearts of gratitude, and thankfulness, replenished with the fear of God. And remember, my beloved, that your strength and support with your godly example, has been that help and comfort to us, since the present work and manifestation began that tongue cannot relate. Altho this present work was not needed so much on your account, as on the account of those who are middle aged, and young, for whom it was mostly designed, that they might have an opportunity to gain that planting in their own souls, (if they would improve it which you gained while we were upon earth says Mother.) And you have been patient to wade thro tribulation, bearing with your spirits, and by your examples,

against that body of darkness that was striving to overshadow the Zion of God upon earth. Yea says Mother, and ye have fed the young of the flock (as many as would receive) with that same food and support with which we fed you when we were with you upon Earth. You have led them gently by the hand, with comforting and cheering words of consolation, promising them, the time would surely come, that the rays of gospel light and purity would brighten and enlighten their path before them, giving them new courage to pursue the strait and narrow path, in this sin destroying gospel, untill they should reach the Kingdom of God, and gain the prise of salvation. And now, my dearly beloved, your eyes behold the fulfilment of your promises, and the answer of your

prayers, as it respects the middle aged and rising generation, who have remained in obedience, according to your counsel; for surely there is no good thing withheld from our children on earth, says Mother, that will serve to encourage them in the pure way of God. And the blessing and strength that you my dearly beloved first born children, has been of unspeakable worth to those of the middle aged and rising generation, whether they are sensible of it or not. Therefore, my beloved, be not over anxious to leave this world. Altho your bodies may become feeble; yet that substance of good which you have gained imparts great strength, and affords much help to those who are of that age and class upon whom the burden must shortly fall.

Yea, says Mother, altho the most

part of my first born have left all mortal things below, and are with me in Eternity, yet those few that are remaining on earth, shall be comforted and supported at my hand. For I never will forsake you, my dearly beloved. For you that have borne the cross from the beginning, and have made my gospel the first object of your pursuit, you come the nighest to God, and to me says Mother; and ye are the peculiar objects of my love, delight and pleasure. Therefore, think not my dear children, that you are forgotten by your blessed Mother, or by any that were with her on earth. And those few of you that are remaining in an earthly tabernacle, are a great help, yea strength and comfort to us, your heavenly Parents,

who are in eternity, says Mother.

Yea, my beloved, you well know that we have been doing a great work with those that are callid to succeed you in the gospel on earth; and we have still more to do, that they may be prepared, and enabled to stand and abide, and pass thro those days of tribulation which God hath purposed they shall surely pass thro.

And you my beloved, have been workers with us, from the begining; and you still are great help and comfort to us.

And our everlasting blessing love and thanks are justly due to you says Mother and these I give unto you to lean upon in your advanced age. For I want says Mother if you feel as tho you could that the most part of my first born that are

upon earth should remain a little longer.
Do you feel as tho you could says Mother.
Do you feel as tho you could remain a
little longer upon the earth and unite with us
in tribulation? for we are certainly pass
ing through deep tribulation, says Mother,
and if you my beloved, with the rest of the
church, and all wherever this may go, will
unite in prayer to God, and drink this
cup with us, we will be exceeding thankful;
for this will be a great comfort to us says
Mother. But this I will promise you, my
dear children, that none of you, shall be
left upon earth to witness the days, in
which shall be accomplished the greatness
of that tribulation, in which God hath
proposed shall come in the days of those
upon whom the burden must fall.

For you my beloved, passed those scenes of deep tribulation, when you first believed my gospel; and God does not require that you should again pass thro them on earth.

But you shall be gathered home to dwell with me, in a peaceable mansion of rest, which I have prepared for you, my faithful and obedient children.

The time is surely fast approaching, says Mother, when those days which I spake of, while on earth, shall be accomplished. The eyes of thousands and thousands shall be turned towards Zion, and great multitudes shall flock thereto, some for good and some for evil.

And great will the bearing distress and tribulation, which they will unavoidably bring upon all my true children

who are then upon earth.

But God has purposed these sufferings for them, and not for you, my dearly beloved. But you, with us must prepare and enable them to meet and go thro' these sufferings; that they may be rightful and true heirs to that sacred and holy inheritance which they are called to possess.

And the days will surely come, that nations and kingdoms will say, who is safe on earth, save those that stand in the Zion of God, where sin does not dwell, and blood is not shed?

Yea, says Mother, these days are a rolling swiftly on, in Gods own time.

Now, dearly beloved, receive my everlasting thanks, love and blessing and of all those that were companions with me

in sufferings on earth. Not one of you, my dear children, have I forgotten, nay and never shall; for you are precious jewels in your Fathers house; and in your Mothers sight objects of her delight.

The middle aged and young says Mother, God does require, and we do require, that they should highly prise every day that they are blessed with your presence on earth, for in no other way can they receive the blesping with which they must be clothed, in order to do the will of God.

So be of good cheer, my dearly beloved; for I will never forsake you, nor leave you; for ye are spirit of my spirit and that spirit unto me will shortly return. And whenever you

read, or have this read, says Mother, if you will hold out both hands, and make four gentle bows, my Angels of Love shall stand before you, and put into your hands the love of all your heavenly Parents, and take a portion, a good portion of love right from your hearts, and bring unto me, says Mother, And sometimes I shall come and get it myself, and give you mine.

Therefore receive this my staff of Love, O my dearly beloved children! and upon it you may lean while you are on the earth, and it shall never grow old, nor cease to yield you support and comfort. And whenever you feel a desire you may invite all that have clean hands and pure hearts to partake with you. I have long had this

my staff of Love in store for you my first born on earth, who have been faithful thro tribulation untill the present day; but the time had not come for me to give it unto them in full, untill now; tho' I have briefly spoken of it to those in the Church, only. But now beloved Ministry and Elders, with your union I send it forth, wishing to have it put in the form of a small pamphlet, and given to the Elders of each family where in there are any of my first born living; and for them to see that it is read in their meeting twice a year, so long as there shall be any of my first born living in that family, who believed when they saw my face, or the faces of those that suffered with me

in tribulation on earth.

It is my desire that this should go to all my first born, throout Zion's habitations, as soon as it may be convenient if the beloved lead feel union, with this my staff of love and remembrance to them: for I have prepared it with my own hand for them. And thers may gain good from it says Mother Ann.

So fare ye well, my dearly beloved; yet will I never forsake you; for they that have never forsaken me, God forbids that I, or any that were my companions in sufferings on earth, should ever leave or forsake them..

A Small Roll from Mother Ann, to Elderess Ruth, and Sister Asenath.
Copied Saturday March 6th 1845.

Dearly Beloved.

After I had written the will of my Heavenly Father, I seated myself in the presence of the 4 Holy Angels, who are ever present in the hours of public worship, and wrote the following communication by the request of Mother Lucy, to all the Sisters, under the age of 50 years, who assemble in Gods Holy Sanctuary to worship him.

O come dear children hearken to me your Mother, for lo! I still wade in tribulation, and my spirit resteth not. O ăl ka vi ne O. Ye that call on my name, while your hearts are afar off, ye whose bodies are still clothed with earths gaudy attire, which is indeed hateful in my sight. O pre cà si lon, hearken ye to my word! What has been the teaching of my first-born, in this respect? Yea and what are the examples of your present Lead? Do they teach you to follow the fashions of the children of this world? Do you see them assemble in the Sanctuary of the Lord, clothed in Babels goods? Nay nay I say nor no one else, save those who assemble to worship a God of lust and pride! O ăr mo da lin. Again I say, ask my firstborn children, if they ever saw me marching to the place of worship, with my bonnet trimmed with pink coloured crape or muslin, either within or without? Ask them if they ever saw me raise my hands in devotional praises, or in prayer to my God, with silk gloves on, or any other kind, for pride's sake only?

O young Sisters! Ask the beloved Lead to view your gauzy caps and handkerchiefs, which you are so careful to preserve, for the purpose of presenting yourselves before the children of this world. Ask them if they were able to worship God to his acceptance, clothed in such fanciful fi nă dĕs? Ask them if they can own and bless you in so doing? Many, many, are the times, dear Sisters I have wept over you, in this sacred place, yea and even while going to, and from the house of worship. Many are the observations, I have heard made, while you were passing, both by my faithful ones, and even the filthy sons and daughters of Adam, who stood gazing upon you, with wonder and surprise, O rĕ sa lin fi me, but these I withhold.

Now, I have no more to say at this time, but Mother Lucy says, she longs to see you dressed once more according to your profession.

O my dear Sisters, do not murmur at the plainess of my word, nor think that I forbid these things, nay, but only say, they are hateful in my sight, and in the sight of your visible Lead, and my faithful first-born children.

No particular order shall I give you concerning these things, but shall only say, that those who wish to be my pretty simple children will never again be seen, walking back and forth on the Lords day, with yellow, purple, or pink coloured capes and trimmings on their bonnets. But you may follow the examples we have set you, as far as and of your beloved Lead in these things.

This is the word of Eternal Life given by divine Inspiration, in union with my beloved, and first chosen on earth.

Words of Comfort from Mother Ann to Elder Amziah Clark. It was written from an Olive Leaf by an inspired Instrument, Friday June 24th. 1842.

With pleasure I send these comforting words to you that your spirit may rejoice with mine, and your heart be merry with gladness and joy. O my much beloved child, you are one whom I place much confidence in the increasing manifestation of God to his people, and it has been a satisfaction and comfort to your spirit many times, to hear from your blessed Mother and Heavenly Parents and receive gifts and heavenly presents from them. yea your soul has rejoiced with joy unspeakable to see the young and rising generation engaged and alive in this glorious work of purging and purifying the holy temple of Zion. I say that you have been a help and comfort to me, and to all your Heavenly Parents, in this blessed work. Heavy tribulation and deep waters have you waded thro with me; and you have drinked the cup of sorrow with me: and you have suffered persecution with me. Therefore I feel to comfort thee and give thee blessings and peace to strengthen thy spirit the remainder of thy days. For think ye, that your life shall be serene, with your Mothers hand, to help and assist you, while walking thro the scenes of time. Bright Angels, do attend you from day to day to comfort and to cheer you that your spirit may not be borne down with sorrow; I have sent them, to strengthen your body that you may remain with my dear children a little longer. Rejoice my beloved for your spirit is near to me, and in the gospel you have been free, and with carefulness and watchfulness have you walked in the fear of God with all your heart and soul. Your Robe is white and your Crown is pure shining with Celestial brightness

And it is your faithful obedience which you have always maintained that makes it look so beautifully. The precious Orders you have kept in purity and holiness, and with a meek spirit, bowed your soul to God for his mercy and goodness to your needy soul. In this way you have been blest and protected, and ever will be; for my spirit will never cease to bless you in all that you do. I will help and bless your body, and give you health and strength, to go on your way rejoicing over your enemies who have persecuted, and mocked you. And some that you have dealt tenderly with, and have spoken mild comforting too words to them, are very sorry for their misconduct and would be glad to come down very humble and bow on their knees to confess to you, but they cannot do it, they have got to feel the smart of it, and a guilty conscience daily tormenting them for their mispent time. Gods judgements have surely overtaken them, and in a manner that is awful to behold, and in a way that you do not think of.

Much tribulation have you passed thro, to see the young so foolish as to look to the world for pleasure, when comfort and happiness they can enjoy here in the gospel of Christ. But you warned, and warned them, from time to time to humble themselves and repent before it was too late. Nay with all the entreaties and loving kindness and charity which you showed to them, they would go to the world, where sorrow and misery is their portion, and will be thro time and in eternity.

I will give you a branch filled with my Love, and it is covered all over it with sweet smelling incense which I have put on it, for you to receive, that you may be joyful. And when it is read the Dove which you have on your head will put it in your hand and you will feel it and know it.

So be patient, and cheerful, for you will never be without a comforter to comfort and guide you, and make your spirit cheerful and happy thro this vale below. You may know that your lovely Mother will help you as you go; and heavenly blessings daily will bestow

Farewell my dear child in union and peace
Your spirit has found a glorious increase.
With my blessed children whore founded in truth
A lovely pure soul youve been from your youth.
My Love and my blessing I'll give now to thee,
Right from my heart to you it is free
For in your calling your faithful and true
And blessings are flowing yea, to comfort you.

You may receive the Love of Father William, Father James, Mother Lucy, Mother Sarah, Your loving Saviour, and the Virgin Mary.

April 2nd 1841

From Mother Ann

To Martin Wood.

My dear child says Mother, do but hearken to my voice, and I will lead you on through all trials and afflictions that will beset you on your way. You have a blessed privilege while in your youth, to hear and learn the way of God. And have set out obey the Gospel of salvation, and walk the path of self-denyal and the cross. So you must continue on in faith, and in union with your lead, for this is the only way you can find peace and justification in your own soul - says Mother. Dont never be weary or feint hearted in this great day of Gods visitation to man; but be a valiant soul for Christ, endure faithfull to the end of the race, and a glorious prize you will obtain. Could you sense the day and privilege you enjoy in this pure and holy Gospel, says Mother. You would never look to the world for satisfaction or comfort, any you cannot find it there. So You must be faithfull both in things spiritual and temporal. improve your precious time in laboring to learn the will of God and to do it. for truly you will receive the just reward of your doings. Yea I own you, my Gospel child, as a faithfull honest soul, laboring to do your duty as the Gospel requires of you. One that is striving to keep the orders of God, and to walk in strict, and simple obedience, to the counsel you received from your Elders, and Teachers. So be encouraged my dear child says Mother; bear your daily cross with meekness and patience while here on Earth you remain, for a rich reward of heavenly treasures is laid up store for every faithfull soul. yea you shall have your share of my good things, if you will go on in the fear of God, doing the best you know, till your work is done. Says Mother Ann.

If you'll go on as you're begun
And every evil try to shun
I'll guide you through all danger here
While on your journey you do steer
Yea I will help and comfort you
That every wrong you may subdue
And travail out of natures loss
By takeing up your daily cross.

My child I say do watch and pray
That you may live from day to day
A life devoted to the Lord
And you'll receive your just reward
I'll fill your soul with heavenly love
And give you wine from heaven above
To strengthen and to cheer you on
Till here on earth your work is done.

On this rool is written the love of Mother Ann. Mother Sarah Father Calvin, Elias Pease, Rhoda Pease, Austin Kellogg, Charlotte Wood, Cordelia Wood, and the protecting Angel.

M. W.

The Image

The work of Ann Lee was to put the Head or Capstone on the spiritual Temple of God. The work of Jesus was to lay the foundation or the Corner stone thereof. It is therefore of great interest & very remarkable that the learned in the world have in these last times discovered that the Text in Zechariah IV, 7. is falsely translated "Shouting Grace grace unto it," which properly rendereth stands rightfully thus "which shall be called Ann Ann Lee."

The whole verse reads truely "Who art thou O great mountain, before Zerubbabel a plain, and he shall bring forth the Headstone, which shall be called Ann Ann Lee."
The word Headstone is in hebrew femalegender אֶבֶן הָרֹאשָׁה.
The word translated shouting is properly a calling תְּרוּעָה.
The words han han lah are rightly translated Ann Ann Lee instead of Grace grace to it. חֵן חֵן לָהּ
From this is derived the word Hannah, in Greek ΑΝΝΑ Anna. See Sam. 1, 2 & Luke II, 36. The last word lah is compounded of 2 words לְ le to and part of the pronoun ה he it. Hence taking the derivation of the former word as it is in Greek ΑΝΝΑ and the first part of the latter we have Anna Le, or removing the aspirate a from the first word Anna & separating the last h from the word (le he) we have Ann Lee.
The hebrew word חֵן han or Le denotes grace, kindness, beauty and prayer.
William Bussel
Our learned brother formerly professor & teacher of ancient languages found this text out first, afterwards Professor Bush in New York city teacher of the hebrew in the city university, and than our learned brother Levy a former hebrew or Israelite endorsed the same as correct & true version.
This gives great light on the sacred Scriptures, For as we find that:
"His name shall be called Jesus", who layd the corner stone to the Temple,
"Her name shall be called Ann Ann Lee", who put on the Head or Cap Stone of Gods spiritual house or temple, of which every good believer is a seperate stone.

over

Charles Julius Porter

Jordans Waters

Come blessed repentance flow into my soul Let Jordans blest waters still over me roll, Wade wade O my soul the wave never fear, Remember the promise thy Savior is near.
O trust in his promise tis faithful and true His arm will uphold you he'll bear you safe through Then plunge O my soul O plunge in again And be wholly cleansed from the nature of sin.

By Eliza Whitney Shirely.

Mother Ann's Promise

There's not a sacrifice made says Mother, But I will repay four fold. Never look back never grow weary
For each one made is more than gold. Number the grains which form the mountain Number the sands upon the shore.
Number the drops of the mighty ocean Still Gods mercy will be more.

Chh Enfield N.H.

New Baptism

I crave a new baptism This blessed hour I seek
To feel the Angel influence Which e'en the thots will keep
Which e'en the thots will keep. A touch of inspiration
I feel from heaven above It fills my soul with holy fear
With pure Angelic love with pure Angelic Love. 1867

Sarah E. Cutler
Mt Lebanon N.Y.

I crave a new baptism This blessed hour I seek

New Baptism

With a hand of love I lead my faithful Children
On I draw them nigh unto my soul I feed them with my blessing
and cloth them with my love that no evil can come nigh them
or do them harm hark hear the trumpet sound it is a band
of Holy Angels marching through the streets of Zion sounding
On their trumpets to call my faithful Servent home Come O
Come enter thou in to the rest prepard for the true and honest For
to you I say the sacrifice that you have made while youth and
vigor play'd upon you your reward in the Heavens is secure such
will be jewels in my Crown and diadems of rayal beuty I will
lead them forth Cloth'd in glory and brightness such as no others can
ever obtain I will seal them with my name they shall dwell in the
Holy Seleen From Mother Ann

To Polly Clark Son

...ober 1821.

We received of Elder Nathaniel ... the ministry the foloving orders ... father had them renewed, ... were to have ... the Ministry in all important matters or if any comes to hand when they are not here we are to open it to them when they come, and for the Deacons to council with the Elders in all matters repecting their trading and when they go out and returns home to give ... her ... while

their Places so that the Ordinances of God may be with us on the Sabbath.

Thirdly we there is a Cloud of am[illegible] going to Hanover expecting to go to Lebanon & Tyring not to set out Earlier in the week about Thursday.

1841. Feb. 2d. & 28th. The Holy Lamb of Zion was
first read at the North house.
" Oct. The Visetation of Holy Mother Wisdom
to mark the inhabitence of Zion that dwelt
at the North & East houses;
1842 June 1st. The 2d. Visetation of Holy Mother
at the North & East houses
" August 9th. The Ministry & Elders and
the Inspired Instraments with some others
met on the Mount of Olives; there the

Fountain was found & staked out and so was the Holy ground,

1842 August 10th. 11 & 12th. Cleared and prepared the ground,

" 13th. had a meeting seated the ground the Ministers attended all except Elders. Many, at this time this Place was dedicated to Almighty God, as a place for the the inhabitents of Zion to assemble when called so to do and hear the word of God and partake of Spiritual food. It had been named " the time it was first found the Mount of Olives by the Saviour, & at the same time " 9th. the Believers settlement was named the City of Union.

1842 August 16th. met again all the Ministry was present Except Elder Nathaniel, all the Elders, the aged and most of the Brethren & Sisters in the first and second families, spent some time in clearing the Concecrated Ground of Stones and roots, and had a beautiful meting with the heavenly Parents Angels and Spirits Father joseph. from the Holy Mount Lebanon with an Olive branch for each one to Set arround the fountain.

1842 Nov. 6th. Met on the Mount of Olives the Ministry all attended, and all the Society that was able and could Leave home had many beautiful exercises

and exortations and prophetic warnings from the Saviour & many others. Built an alter, partook of the feast of the Lord and offered upon the alter and had a joyful time. Meeting continued about 6 hours.

1842 Nov. 20th. the Fountain south of the Earth family's house was found. likewise the Garden. Vineyeard & orchard & wineprell

1843 April 22-23. The Roll & Communications from the Almighty to the Nations of the earth. were read in the meeting house. by Br. Ephraim & Hal

June 15th We held a meeting on the Mount of Olives. the Ministry and

Br Joseph Wicker and all the society that that was able attended and partook of the feast of good things had considerable exercise with many prophetic warnings which was solemn and weighty! the meeting continued about 3 hours

1843 June 26th the fence arround the concirated Ground was finished Painted and the bed-Stone for the Monument was placed

" July 16th. the Covenants of the Heavenly Parents was first read at the North house

" July 23th. Mother Luce. Message about being Saveing was read.

" August 6th. Mother Ann. Staff of Love was read.

1843

August 20th — the Message given by Father William from God Concerning the use of meat. Spirits. & Tea. & Tobacco was read in the meeting house.

Sept. 24th — the Church North & East families had a meeting on the Mount set out 3/4 past 12. pm & returned 1 1/4

Oct. 12th. the North family had the sacred rod to Grace

" 18th. was kept in remembrance of Holy. Mother Wisdom's searching work and of the goodness of God in withholding his heavy judgments

Nov. 20th. the fence was made around the maples on the Mount. the Master was set a few days before.

Dec. 6th. the Spruces was set on the consecrated ground.

18[redacted] Dec 17th.

[redacted] Mothers
[redacted] Messages concerning heirs having
[redacted]
1844 Feb 4th. was kept as a fast through
the Society
Feb. 11th. The Ministry Brot a Bright Sword
and a gold Bridle which was given to the
Brethren and Sisters a Covenant from the
Holy Saviour.
Feb. 29th. Mothers Staff of Love was
March 31. The Holy orders was (read.
May 19th. The Elders, & leaders of each Family
met on the Mount of olives. set out at one &
returned at four oclocks. had many Presents
from the Saviour & Mother & other spirits.

1844. June 2d
The whole Society met on the Mount of Olives. The Ministry all but Elders Dany. attended set out 8 ¼ a.m. & return'd 1 ¼ p.m. those that had not rec'd. Holy. Mothers mark was called to receive it. 49 in number. the aged Mothers first born was called on to Bless the young & receive their thanks & we had a good meeting a feast of good things
" August 5th. The Visitation of the Holy Father at the North & East Family.
August 11th. Mother Lucy's Book of industry & prudence was read. N. J.
Sept. 15th the whole society met on the Mount, set out at 9 o'clock & return'd at 2

1845 Feb. 10th. the gift of repentence was given N. J.
" " 16 " kept as day of fasting & p.
" March 23d. the Holy orders was read.

21 March began to read Mathers sayings
read to 69th Page North and East.
6th. April read at the North. part of the East
Family was present, read to 13

1841 Dec. 12th. there was a Publick Meeting in the meeting house for the last time.

" Dec. 26th. the Society held a meeting in the afternoon. then had a meeting some times in the A.m. and some times P.m. one in 2 3 or 4 weeks for the 6 months fallowing, then once a week for the most part. for One year or more

1843 March the meeting was not quite so frequent. the first family some times did not attend in the Meeting house but did for the most part until June,

" Oct. 29th the Ministry & Church Family attended meeting with the Families

" Dec. 31st. the Sacred Rool & Book was placed in the rooms at the North & East Family

1844
Feb. 18th the Church attended meeting with
the Families. Elder Nathaniel H. Br. Grove attended

As my Strength fails fast and my dissolution seems near and inevitable, I feel to express some of my faith and feelings by writing. I thought it would be a satisfaction to my beloved brethren and sisters, as well as those my relatives and friends who are among the world to known my mind and feelings during my last hours; altho I feel quite unable to express half what I feel. — In the first place, I can truly say I feel exceeding thankful for my blessed privilege in the gospel; in being taught the way of God in my youthful days, and been kept from the sin and wickedness of the world. I do certainly believe this is the way of God & the only way, whereby any creature will be saved; I believe it as much as I believe I have a soul that needs his mercy and goodness. It is the way that God has laid out for souls to find their union and relation to him. Jesus said, "I am the way the truth and the light, no man cometh to the Father but by me." By denying ourselves, taking up our crosses, confessing & forsaking all sin and following his examples, were the only terms that he has promised salvation to any soul. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleans us from all unrighteousness." This often used to recur to my mind when a child, that no soul could ever meet a pure and holy God in peace while committing and living in sin.

Altho I have many times erred, yet I have meant to do the best that I could and obey the light of God revealed in my soul; and the measure of peace and justification that I feel, I would not exchange for all the riches honors treasure of earth; It affords my soul the only consolating hope when my body is overwhelmed with pain and anguish; without which I must soon sink in misery and dispair.

I had not formed calculations of dying so young as it seems that I am but of how little use it is to form plans of life, for we are all dying creatures. We are certain the moment of death must come. We are certain it can be at no great distance, but we know not how near. And O how important it

is

is to be prepared to meet the Solemn change.

I often thing of my beloved young brethren and Sisters with whom I have Spent my Juvenile years in gospel love and innocence. It seems that I soon must leave you, but I hope to meet you all again in the mansions of bliss where all tears Shall be wiped away, where pain Sorrow and anguish can grieve us no more. I do certainly feel for your wellfare and happiness as well as my own. And when I see any one so unwise as to leave this blessed heavenly way of life and peace, for the vain pleasure and carnal enjoyments of the world, it fills my Soul with unspeakable Sorrow and anguish.

I have seen enough of the world and its vanities to convince me that there is nothing there that will yield us peace and happiness beyond the grave "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man is as the flower of grass; the grass withereth and the flower there of falleth away, but the word of the Lord endureth forever." I do Sincerely disire that all the youth & children would make the inestimable treasure of the gospel their own, for it will afford us the only good when we have passed through this vale of tears and bid all earthly things adieu. It is when the things of time seem at a close that the blessed gospel seems of the greatest worth, it then seems as a ministering angel, cheers and comforts the Soul when the body is overwhelmed with pain and anguish, and blunts the sting of death.

O then all do embrace it and keep it I pray,
For all of the treasures will vanish away;
Then again we Shall meet on that happy Shore,
Where we Shall Sing praises and Sorrow no more.

O how thankful I now am that I have born the cross of Christ, have forsaken all the vain pleasures of the world, and been a partaker of the precious gospel in the days of my youth.

Altho my bodily Sufferings are great, yet that peace and consolation which I feel in my Soul, overbalances them all. That peace and comfort which I feel in the gospel I would not exchange for a thousand Such worlds as this.

I feel as tho every thing had been done to restore me to health that could be, I feel entirely satisfied. But all seems to avail not, I feel the cold hand of death fast upon me, which no human power can sunder; but death is no terror to me I feel reconciled to the will of God, I can truly say "thy will be done not mine".

I do sincirely thank all my kind Elders who have taught me the Gospel, it is the way of God, for it saves the Soul from Sin The gospel is my only treasure, it fills my Soul with love and consolation. O how of little worth I am all the fleeting things of time, when compared with this inestimable treasure. O I cannot express half my thankfulness for the gospel, and my love and gratitude to my brethren and Sisters. My Soul melts with love and thankfulness to God for this blessed heavenly way of life and peace.

I now must close these few lines by sincerely desiring you all to accept of my kind love and Sincere thanks for all your kindnesses; for all your kind tender care and affectionate regard for me both in health and in sickness.

So now farewell, farewell, all my kind loving Friends.

Written by Lucy Williams

Suitable for any Library.

Taken from Precepts of Mothers & the Elders.

First Interview of the People in this Country, with Mother & the Elders, with some of the Questions & Answers that passed between them.

While Mother and her little family were laboring in the wilderness of Niskeyuna, and preparing themselves for the opening of the gospel, they were little noticed or known, even by the neighboring inhabitants. But in the Spring of the year 1780, God, in his providence, opened the way for the commencement of that great and mighty work, which they had long been waiting to see, and which, shortly after, filled the whole neighboring country with anxiety and alarm.

The first intelligence concerning

this little Church of Christ, was received by the inhabitants of New Lebanon, and its vicinity, in the month of March. Enquiries were soon after made, and people began to visit the Church from different places, particularly from New Lebanon. When they came to see Mother and the Elders, they were filled with wonder and admiration at the great power and operations which they were under, & the clear and pointed plainness of their testimony against all sin, and every evil work.

The gifts and operations of the Holy Ghost were evident among them. Shaking, trembling, speaking in unknown tongues, prophesying and singing melodious songs, were gifts with which they seemed continually to be filled; with many other signs and operations, which showed the mighty power of God, and pointed out the particular sins and abominations which those who came to see them had committed. Even the very

thoughts of the heart were plainly and particularly pointed out; insomuch that many feared and trembled in their presence, while others ran to get out of the way lest their sins should be told them.

Many enquiries were made concerning their religion and doctrines, of which the following is a short specimen. The people enquired of Mother & the Elders the cause of their maintaining such a singular faith & manner of life. They replied, that they had been laboring, for years, in the work of the regeneration, and had actually risen with Christ, and did travel with him, in the resurrection; and related considerable of their experience.

The people then said, "If you have attained to that of God, which we have not, we should be glad to share with you; for we want to find the best way to be saved." They answered, "If you are ever saved by Christ, it must be by walking as he walked. And if you have committed sins, you must

confess them to those witnesses in whom Christ has taken up his abode."

To the married people, Mother said, "You must forsake the marriage of the flesh, or you cannot be married to the Lamb, nor have any share in the resurrection of Christ. For those who are counted worthy to have part in the resurrection of Christ, neither marry nor are given in marriage; but are like unto the angels."

"But (said they,) we have had the power of God among us, and received light & conviction, and have felt great tribulation for our sins; after which we have felt great love and releasement, and thought ourselves converted and born of God. Is not this of Christ?"

Mother & the Elders answered and said, "The gifts and calling of God are given to souls in nature's darkness; not because they have repented, but they are intended to lead souls to repentance."

The people then enquired, "What is

repentance?" and were answered, "To leave off committing sin, is the only repentance which God accepts; and this (said Mother) can no one do, short of making an honest & faithful confession of all the sins that he has ever committed in his whole life, to the chosen witnesses of Christ."

"But (said they) it is God alone that can forgive sins; where is then the necessity of confessing them to man?"

The Elders answered, that God had established that order, for all souls who have committed sin, that they must confess their sins before his chosen witnesses; and then referred them to the scriptures, particularly to the law of Moses, to the case of Achan and Joshua, and to the days of John the Baptist, where they came and confessed their sins, and showed their deeds. "All souls (said they) that commit sin, are lost from God, and therefore do not know God. For they that know God, as he is, do not commit sin: for it is eternal life to know God, & Jesus

Christ whom he has sent."

"But those that commit sin, are bound in death; and are not able to come to God without help. And when they come to Christs witnesses, and honestly confess their sins to them, they find some relation to these witnesses, and that gives them some relation to Christ; and in this sense, these witnesses become mediators between Christ and lost souls. They also take the burden and loss that the soul is under, and bear it till the soul has had a season to gain strength, and becomes able to bear its own burden."

They asked the Elders saying, "Are you perfect? Do you live without sin?" The Elders answered, "The power of God, revealed in this day, does enable souls to cease from sin; and we have received that power; we have actually left off committing sin, and we live in daily obedience to the will of God."

They replied, "Solomon was called a wise man; and he said that there was not a man upon earth that lived without sin."

"

The Elders answered, "Solomon was under the law of sin, and it is evident enough that he committed sin. He did not know Christ; for Christ had not then been revealed. Whatsoever the law saith, it saith to them that are under the law. But when Christ came, those that believed and obeyed him, ceased from sin."

"Those that are in Christ are not under the law of sin; because they do not commit sin; therefore there is no law that can either justify or condemn them, but the law of Christ. For Christ has delivered them from the law of sin, and given them the law of righteousness, and made them able to walk in it."

"But they that commit sin are always in danger of the judgment of God. If we should be overcome and commit sin, our case would be deplorable; because we have tasted the good word of God, and received of the powers of the world to come."

These, and many other things passed in conversation, between these strange foreigners,

and the people who first visited them, to search out their religion. For the extraordinary report of a wonderful people had reached their ears, and many were anxious to see and and learn for themselves. And every candid and honest enquirer was fully convinced that they were the chosen witnesses of God: for it was manifest to all who heard them, that they spoke by the mighty power of God.